

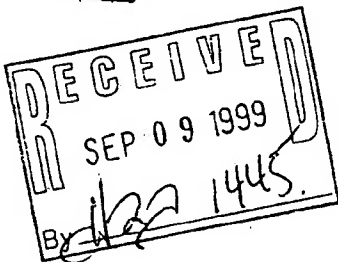
APPROVED FOR  
RELEASE ☐ DATE:  
14-Jul-2009



FAX from ...

# Senator Dianne Feinstein

of California



331 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510  
(202) 224-3841

DATE: 9/9/99

TIME: 12:30

TO:



/congressional AFFAIRS

fax:



FROM:

office of Senator Dianne Feinstein

COMMENTS: ATTACHED Please Find a copy of a letter from  
Senator Feinstein to Director TENET.

Please Acknowledge Receipt of this FAX.

Contact # 202-224-2730

TOTAL NUMBER OF PAGES (INCLUDING COVER SHEET): 3

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DIANNE FEINSTEIN  
CALIFORNIA

## United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-0504

September 8, 1999

Mr. George J. Tenet  
Director of Central Intelligence  
Central Intelligence Agency  
Washington, D.C. 20505

Dear Director Tenet:

During my recent visit to the People's Republic of China, I had an opportunity to discuss informally with Chinese President Jiang Zemin a range of issues affecting U.S.-China relations. Unhappily, the United States' bombing of the Chinese Embassy in Belgrade figured as one of the more sensitive topics in our discussions. This regrettable incident not only damaged our bilateral relationship on the official level, it has engendered among average Chinese citizens a growing distrust of America and suspicion of American motives regarding China.

China is rife with rumors and conspiracy theories: the Belgrade Embassy was the only site targeted by the Central Intelligence Agency; the bombing was done purposively to test China's reactions and resolve; it was done to undermine pro-China groups in the United States, perhaps even to embarrass the Administration. There are statements that the Chinese Embassy site is clearly marked as a diplomatic mission on available commercial maps and claims that American Defense Attaches had actually visited the building before the bombing and, thus, knew what it was. Correct or not, such thinking exists and, for many in China, the Belgrade bombing remains a source of anger. It is also quite likely, in my view, that absent a credible investigation and a believable explanation, the bombing will remain an impediment to improved U.S.-China relations for some time to come. It is for this reason that I am writing to you today.

I feel strongly that it is the duty of the United States Government, and certainly of your agency, to produce a clear and full accounting of the actions and decisions which produced this tragedy. I am also confident that, as you recently stated for the record, you also remain committed to discovering the truth concerning this incident.

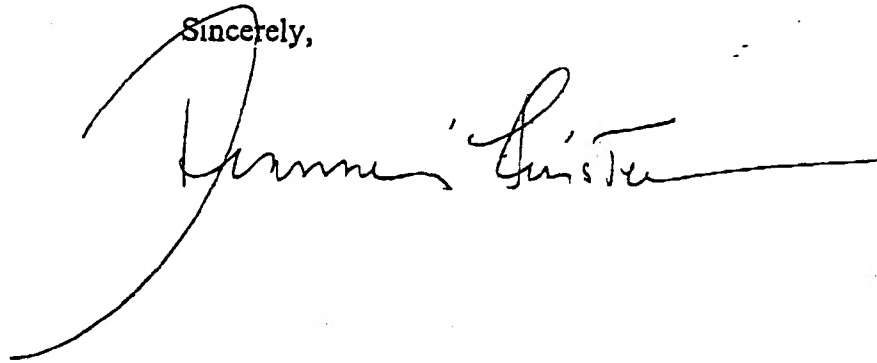
To this end, I would appreciate receiving from you, in a timely manner, a progress report on the investigation into the Belgrade bombing. I would be interested in knowing not only the results that you have achieved to date, but also the truth concerning the rumors mentioned earlier in this letter. Was the Chinese Embassy identifiable on commercial maps? Had U.S. military officials actually visited the building? If there had been any doubt about the target's actual identity, why wasn't the mission aborted and the aircraft recalled?

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I understand that the Central Intelligence Agency is conducting a full investigation into this matter and would like to know the nature of the investigation itself: is it being conducted independently by an outside agency, by a task force organized within your agency or by an Inspector General's office?

I appreciate the sensitive nature of this issue and am willing to make the arrangements necessary to receive a classified, or an unclassified briefing, as would be appropriate. I look forward to your early response.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Diann Feinstein". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal line extending to the right. It is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".